

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 050488

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 1411 SENT SECSTATE DATED MAR 3.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1411

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO AORG PLO IS

SUBJECT: ILO GOVERNING BODY - PLO

REF: GENEVA 1403

1. REPORT OF GB STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE IS EXCELLENT AND MEETS ALL SPECIFICATIONS OUTLINED IN PARA 10 OF REFTEL. THE REPORT: (A) CLEARLY STATES COMMITTEE PERFORMED ONLY TECHNICAL, NOT POLICY, TASK; (B) MAKES NO RPT NO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GB ACTION, BUT MERELY "SUBMITS" THE RESULTS OF ITS TECHNICAL WORK TO THE GB; (C) CONTAINS NO DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF EITHER THE GOVERNING BODY OR INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES, ON THE GROUNDS THAT TO GRANT OBSERVER STATUS TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN THOSE BODIES WOULD GIVE THEM A PREFERRED STATUS OVER ILO MEMBER STATES WHICH, IF NOT MEMBERS OF THE GB OR INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES, CANNOT PARTICIPATE AS OBSERVERS IN THE WORK OF THOSE BODIES; AND (D) CONTAINS FOUR ALTERNATIVE FORMULATIONS (DESCRIBED IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PARAS 6 AND 7 OF REFTEL) OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO STANDING

ORDERS OF ILO CONFERENCE AND OF REGIONAL CONFERENCES, WITHOUT RECOMMENDING ANY PREFERENCE AMONG THEM.

2. IN THE LIGHT OF THE TONE AND CONTENT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE REPORT, THE MOST LIKELY TACTIC TO OBTAIN POSTPONEMENT OF DISCUSSION OF PLO ISSUE IN THE GB WOULD BE FOR THE GB TO: (A) NOTE THE REPORT WITHOUT DISCUSSION, AND (B) REFER THE REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE. THIS TACTIC IS STRONGLY FAVORED BY SEIDMAN AND IRVING BROWN OF AFL-CIO, AS IT POSTPONES DISCUSSION UNTIL THE JUNE CONFERENCE, WHERE THE ISSUE WILL COME UP IN ANY EVENT.

3. INASMUCH AS NO CHANGES IN STANDING ORDERS WHICH ARE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GB ARE INVOLVED (I.E. GB AND INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES), THE GB IS NOT FOREGOING ANY OF ITS AUTHORITY BY REFERRING THE MATTER TO THE CONFERENCE NOW.

4. AT PRESENT THE PROSPECTS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROCEDURE IN PARA 2 ABOVE LOOK ENCOURAGING, THOUGH BY NO MEANS CERTAIN. THAT DEPENDS ON ACCEPTANCE BY ARABS, PARTICULARLY NASSER, LEBANESE EMPLOYER MEMBER. ILO/DG BLANCHARD WORKING HARD TO LINE UP SUPPORT FOR THIS PROCEDURE. IN ADDITION TO BROWN AND SEIDMAN, U.S. EMPLOYER (STEINDER) SUPPORTS AND WORKING FOR ACCEPTANCE IN EMPLOYER GROUP. USDEL UNDERSTAND WORKER GROUP WILL SUPPORT; THAT HEAD OF EMPLOYER GROUP (TATA OF INDIA) SUPPORTS AND BELIEVES NASSER MAY AGREE; AND THAT EUROPEAN 9 WILL CONSIDER IT TODAY WITH FRG AND UK AND FRANCE (WITH WHOM USDEL CONSULTED ON MARCH 2 AND 3) IN FAVOR. JAPAN AND CANADA APPEARED OPTIMISTICALLY NON-COMMITTAL, AND, IN USDEL'S JUDGEMENT, LIKELY TO SUPPORT. USDEL ALSO UNDERSTANDS GB CHAIRMAN KHATTABI (OF MOROCCO) ALSO FAVORS POSTPONEMENT IF IT CAN BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT BLOWUP. PROCEDURE ALSO SATISFACTORY TO ISRAELIS. EASTERN EUROPEANS SO FAR APPEAR TO BE RAISING NO QUESTION ABOUT THE PROCEDURE.

5. USDEL PLANS SUPPORT, AND IS WORKING QUIETLY FOR ACCEPTANCE, OF THIS PROCEDURE. THIS LIKELY COME UP AS FIRST ITEM OF GB BUSINESS ON TUESDAY, MARCH 4, AT 10:30 OR 11:00 AM GENEVA TIME. \$-3 UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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